

Meanwhile, the bill includes dozens of extraneous provisions that the Commission did not recommend and that are opposed by the Commission, families of 9–11 victims, human rights and civil liberties groups, and some by the White House itself. The provisions include new authority allowing the President to completely undo the intelligence reforms passed by Congress, expedited removal of undocumented immigrants without judicial review, revocation of visas, exceptions to the UN Convention Against Torture, and allowing the U.S. government to spy on individuals without proving they are connected to a foreign government or terrorist group, among others.

These extraneous provisions aren't just objectionable because of their content—they are objectionable because at a time when we most need to think of country before politics, to find ways to come together to make our country safer, not ways to further divide us, the Republican leadership is more interested in scoring political points than in passing responsible legislation.

Even so, I am voting for H.R. 10 today because I believe that we need intelligence reform. This bill does not go far enough to protect the American people, but it is better than no reform at all. The good news is that the Senate—by a 96–2 vote—produced a bipartisan bill that should help strengthen the Senate's hand (and the voice of reason) in the conference committee. With the President supporting the Senate bill and every Republican in the Senate voting for it, it seems to me that House Republicans' misguided criticisms of the bill in conference won't carry much weight.

I am optimistic that the conference report will more closely reflect the Senate bill. As 9/11 Commissioners Thomas Kean and Lee Hamilton wrote in the Washington Post last month, "We should not wait until another [intelligence] failure takes place, until another commission has a task as somber as ours. We welcome refinements to our recommendations through the legislative process. But the time has come to act."

H.R. 10 is not the legislative refinement Commissioners Kean and Hamilton had in mind, nor is it mine. But it is a start. As the legislative process continues, I will do all I can to help move the bill in the right direction. I hope my colleagues across the aisle will do the same. At a time when our security is at risk, Congress must set politics aside and pass intelligence reform legislation that will truly make America safer.

9/11 RECOMMENDATIONS IMPLEMENTATION ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. KEVIN BRADY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 8, 2004

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 10) to provide for reform of the intelligence community, terrorism prevention and prosecution, border security, and international cooperation and coordination, and for other purposes:

Mr. BRADY of Texas. Mr. Chairman, I rise in strong support of this measure which would

reform and improve our security and intelligence structure.

The Houston area, of which I represent part of, meets every single criteria for critical infrastructure terrorist targets—14 of 14—we are a perfect storm of terrorist targets. Texas shares about half of its borders with International interests—Mexico and The Gulf of Mexico—leaving us even more vulnerable and facing some unique security needs.

Houston and surrounding areas are ripe for trade, are magnets for the petrochemical industry, have been thriving agriculture regions and remain the center of activities for the energy, banking and many other industries. We have ports and airports large and small, NASA, many tourist attractions, and an environment that invites businesses large and small. All these things make our area wonderful to live in but at the same time make it a higher potential target for terrorism and disasters. Greater risk area because of our size, population, not only in urban core but also in outlying areas geographically and population density.

H.R. 10 is about protecting our interests at home and abroad and protecting our way of life. It would be irresponsible to not act. I'd like to take a few minutes to talk about a few provisions in this bill which I think are particularly important:

Taking serious action to strengthen our borders—doubling border patrol agents—tripling immigration agents.

To seriously restructure our intelligence community and truly making the way we do business more intelligent.

Sending more targeted First Responder grants to where the real threats are and supporting the folks on the ground who are our own front line. Our colleges and community colleges and first responders throughout the state and their ability to quickly respond to local needs make our area an excellent model for delivery of training.

Treating terrorists like terrorists and not giving them free U.S. vacation visas and asylum.

Cracking down on terrorists—whether acting alone or state sponsored or some guerrilla regime—knocking the wind from their sails and taking our country—our way of life—back.

We stand for freedom and democracy and terrorism targets these values—the things this nation hold most dearly. We need to act now to protect our families and our way of life.

SUPPORT OF WORLD FOOD DAY

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Saturday, October 9, 2004

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today on behalf of myself and Mr. PAYNE to recognize World Food Day on October 16.

It is imperative to reflect on one of the greatest problems facing humanity today, hunger. Statistics show that close to a billion people around the globe suffer from the effects of hunger and malnutrition. Sixteen thousand children die daily of hunger-related illnesses.

The United Nations Hunger Task Force estimates that, globally, 50 percent of hungry people are in farm households; 22 percent are the rural landless; 20 percent are urban; and 8 percent are directly dependent on natural re-

sources. The fight against hunger must target rural populations in developing countries.

The World Food Summit and the first Millennium Development Goal, MDG, aim to reduce the number of hungry by 2015.

Increasing a population's productivity lends itself to community development and access to resources. These resources can be used to facilitate agricultural and educational programs, which from people can learn and teach themselves to grow. As a result, healthy women are more likely to pass on these positive aspects to their children.

In 1943, President Franklin D. Roosevelt took the initiative to address concerns about world hunger. He assembled 44 governments in Hot Springs, VA, to establish a permanent organization for food and agriculture. Two years later that assembly became the FAO—the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations.

Since its establishment in 1945, FAO has committed itself to raising levels of nutrition, improving agricultural productivity, for the betterment of people residing in rural areas. Each year on October 16, FAO's commemorates its founding with World Food Day (WFD). The theme for 2004, "Biodiversity for Food Security," addresses biodiversity's role in ensuring that people have sustainable access to enough high-quality food to lead active and healthy lives, www.fao.org/wfd.

More than 150 countries observe World Food Day. Numerous activities take place on this day to promote awareness within the United States. Examples of these are the World Prize Award Ceremony and Symposium in Des Moines; hundreds of WFD teleconference sites at colleges across America and at U.S. Embassies around the world; "Restaurants against Hunger" in New York, Washington, DC, San Francisco, Los Angeles, Chicago and Boston; 2204 CROP walks sponsored by Church World Service in some 2,000 communities. Jacques Diouf, Director General of FAO will keynote observances at the United Nations in New York on October 18 and at Howard University's Law School on Tuesday, October 19.

While conflict and harsh climate—the more publicized conditions—often create hunger emergencies; chronic malnutrition claims the majority of the lives lost in the battle against hunger. The world possesses the capabilities to alleviate hunger. Lacking are stabilized governments in developing areas and proper distribution of desperately needed materials, where it be food, medication, or equipment.

The U.S. Alliance Against Hunger is working on the following: making hunger an election issue, helping develop the International Alliance Against Hunger and encouraging business, religious and nongovernmental organizations to build the public will to overcome hunger.

The International Alliance Against Hunger, IAAH, assists in building national alliances around the globe. These alliances composed of governments, international organizations, civil society organizations and the private sector work to raise public awareness about the 2015 hunger goal. Eighty-four countries have expressed interested in being part of this global effort.

Individual governments must do more to indicate change of these staggering numbers. Bread for the World estimates, that Congress' bipartisan agreement increased poverty-focused development assistance by nearly 30

percent in 2003. The Millennium Challenge Account, MCA, has provided new hope to selected countries. Sadly, appropriations for the MCA have been cut in half in 2004 by the president's request, and neither the President nor Congress is currently keeping the promises they have made. These funds must be resorted in order to make progress against worldwide hunger.

In closing Mr. Speaker, we stand in full support of World Food Day and the efforts of the international community to end hunger throughout the world.

9/11 RECOMMENDATIONS IMPLEMENTATION ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. JAMES R. LANGEVIN

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 8, 2004

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 10) to provide for reform of the intelligence community, terrorism prevention and prosecution, border security, and international cooperation and coordination, and for other purposes:

Mr. LANGEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of this measure, not because I endorse all of its provisions, but because I believe that Congress must act swiftly to reform our intelligence community and to protect our homeland.

As a member of the House Armed Services Committee, I believe H.R. 10 does not go far enough to establish a National Intelligence Director with real authority. I agree that we must provide the Department of Defense and our men and women in uniform with the military intelligence needed to be successful, an assertion that 9/11 Commission Vice Chairman Lee Hamilton accepted even though it was not specifically addressed in the report. At the same time, if we do not grant the NID true authority over our intelligence assets, we run the risk of adding another layer of bureaucracy that complicates, not simplifies, the challenges facing our system.

Furthermore, I am disappointed that H.R. 10 is largely silent in addressing the threat of nuclear weapons proliferation. There is no greater danger to our homeland than the possibility of a nuclear weapon being smuggled into our country by terrorists. Russia and many former Soviet republics retain nuclear material that is not appropriately safeguarded, and the United States must lead an international effort to track down, lock up and destroy those potentially deadly weapons. Unfortunately, an amendment offered in committee by the gentlewoman from California, Mrs. TAUSCHER, and the gentleman from South Carolina, Mr. SPRATT, was blocked from consideration.

On a more positive note, this legislation appropriately recognizes the need to enhance our human intelligence capabilities and creates a national counterterrorism center to coordinate interagency intelligence efforts.

I am also heartened that H.R. 10 heeds the Commission's call to enhance America's image in the world and prevent the rise and recruitment of future terrorists. Dr. Joseph Nye, the former dean of the Kennedy School of Government and Assistant Secretary of De-

fense for International Security Affairs, has talked about the need to supplement our military might with "soft power"—efforts to win the world's hearts and minds with our values and culture. Successfully exercising this type of power requires that we pursue many fronts, including international diplomacy, democracy-building, cultural exchanges, economic development, educational initiatives and communication about our values and ideals.

To win the ideological battle being waged in the world today, we have to offer an alternative to the hopelessness and despair that the likes of Osama bin Laden and al-Qaida prey upon. There are millions of young people in the Islamic world who are hungry for hope and opportunity, and it is in our interest to show them that hope lies in freedom, liberty and democracy—not in extremism and hate. In doing this, we take a major step towards ensuring that we win the long-term war on terror.

As the 9/11 Commission so eloquently put it: "We need to defend our ideals abroad vigorously. If the United States does not act aggressively to define itself in the Islamic world, the extremists will gladly do the job for us." While H.R. 10 does not implement all of the Commission's recommendations in this regard, I am pleased that our nation is finally taking an important step toward bolstering its stature in the world. I am hopeful that the Conference Committee will adopt stronger provisions from the Senate bill regarding our efforts in Afghanistan, public diplomacy initiatives, educational and cultural exchange programs, and economic development initiatives.

With regard to domestic security, the measure before us today takes some major steps forward. As recommended by the Commission, the bill calls for the creation of a stronger biometric entry-exit screening system, global standards for security systems, a transportation security strategy for all sectors, and improved prescreening of airline passengers. H.R. 10 also moves closer to a threat-based formula for distribution of first responder grants, an important change in the way we fund state and local preparedness efforts. Unfortunately, the bill falls short of several critical goals, among which are protecting privacy in information-sharing, ensuring spectrum and equipment for public safety interoperable communications, enhancing private sector preparedness, and improving the way we track terrorist travel and financing.

Most disappointingly, H.R. 10 undertakes a number of controversial immigration modifications not recommended by the 9/11 Commission and not found in the Senate legislation, which passed earlier this week by a resounding vote of 96–2. The inclusion of these divisive sections will likely slow down the upcoming conference and delay implementation of the many beneficial parts of this legislation.

One worrisome provision of H.R. 10 strips from the courts their traditional judicial oversight in many immigration cases and may require automatic deportation of noncitizens, even if they will face torture in the country to which they are sent. Not only is this provision a violation of the International Convention Against Torture, it is morally unacceptable and risks further damaging America's image in the world.

In addition, the bill expands the use of secret intelligence court orders, which can be issued under a far lower standard than con-

ventional warrants or wire taps. The unfortunate inclusion of these and other extraneous provisions threatens civil rights and civil liberties and endangers the future of intelligence reform. I look forward to addressing some of these issues during the amendment process and urge conferees to reject any provisions which would threaten the bipartisan, bicameral response that the 9/11 Commission's report requires.

I am pleased that we will have the opportunity to vote on a substitute offered by the gentleman from New Jersey, Mr. MENENDEZ, and I urge all of my colleagues to support its passage. The Menendez substitute is based on the bipartisan McCain-Lieberman-Collins legislation, which has the support of the 9/11 Commission, the White House and families of the 9/11 victims. This amendment addresses all 41 of the Commission's recommendations, and does so without adding controversial and divisive provisions that jeopardize the broad-based support the recommendations have garnered.

I am deeply disappointed that the House leadership has denied the minority a voice in drafting this bill, and I urge my colleagues to support the Menendez substitute to correct these problems. However, should it fail, I am confident that we will be able to improve this legislation in negotiations with the Senate and the White House so that we may provide the type of reform that the American people deserve.

THE DEBT WE OWE OUR WOUNDED

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Saturday, October 9, 2004

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, in his 1917 poem, *Disabled*, the British poet Wilfred Owen, whose haunting verse brought the horror of the First World War to millions throughout the English-speaking world, described the loneliness and emptiness of a soldier who had lost his leg in war.

Alone, in a wheelchair by a window, the soldier remembers all that he has lost and how the cheers that accompanied his departure for the front were not so loud upon his return—how

only a solemn man who brought him fruits
Thanked him; and then enquired about his soul.

Today thousands of young Americans face many of the same challenges of the young amputee in Owen's poem. Thanks to vastly improved battlefield medicine and body armor, fewer of our troops in Iraq and Afghanistan die from their wounds than in any of America's previous wars. But this improved survival rate does not come without a price: Thousands of young Americans are returning home paralyzed or without limbs. More than 7,000 Americans have been wounded in Iraq according to the Defense Department and many hundreds more have been wounded in Afghanistan.

Last month, when I visited our troops in Iraq, I spent some time at a military field hospital near Baghdad. It was a deeply moving experience to confront the costs of war. Two weeks ago, I shared with this House a discussion I had had with two young Marines whose armored Humvee had been blown up by a